Aberdeen School District No. 5

216 North G Street, Aberdeen, WA 98520-5297

(360) 538-2000

Martin Kay, Superintendent

SCAN (360) 234-3733 FAX (360) 538-2014

August 21, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 - 12th Street S. W. Washington, DC 20554

Re:

CC Docket Numbers 96-45 and 97-21

To Whom it May Concern:

Enclosed you will find copies of an email correspondence sent to the attention of the Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary on July 8, 2002.

This letter is in reference to:

Billed Entity Number:

145297

Form 471 Application Number:

297249

Funding Year 2002:

07/01/2002 - 06/30/2003

Funding Request Number:

762167

Our concern is that we have not yet received a response to our emailed letter of appeal. Please confirm receipt of the email sent July 8, 2002. Thank you.

Sincerely.

Michael R. Williams, Technology Director

Aberdeen School District No. 5

216 North G Street

Aberdeen, WA 98530

mwilliams@asd5.org

MRW:pis

Enclosures

No. of Copies rec'd List ABODE

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Aberdeen School District No. 5

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COBSECRETARY @ foc. 900

Martin Kay, Superintendent

July 8, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445-12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Ref: CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21

To Whom It May Concern:

This second letter of appeal is in reference to a Funding Commitment Decision (FCD) letter we received on April 29, 2002. This letter was in reference to:

Billed Entity Number:

145297

Form 471 Application Number:

297249

Funding Year 2002:

07/01/2002 - 06/30/2003

Funding Request Number:

762167

The Initial FCD was to deny funding. The explanation was: "The 470 cited did not include service of this type; therefore it does not meet the 28 day competitive bidding requirement." This decision was appealed (Attachment #1).

We recently received an "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2002-2003" Letter dated June 24, 2002. The decision on appeal was to deny in full any requested funds. The letter states in the first bulleted paragraph that "...due to an error, you inadvertently choose the wrong service category. You would like the SLD to change the category to Internet access and provide discount for this request."

 I did not request that we would like the SLD to change the service category. As I stated in our original appeal letter (Attachment #1), Form 470 (778470000311109) requested "Internet Access" as the category of service (Block 5 #11). We were awarded funding in that category for Year 4 (2001-2002). When we filed our 2002-2003 Form 471 Application No. 297249, the category of service (Block 5 # 11) was inadvertently changed from "Internet Access" to "Telecommunication Services". Form 471 Application No. 297249 was not filed for new services; it was filed for services covered under an existing contract that were deemed eligible and funded in Year 4 (FRN 637315), therefore no new 470 was filed for 2002-2003. As such, there should not be any 28-day competitive bidding required.

The second bulleted paragraph states: "According to the information submitted as Item 21 attachment in support of this request, services requested qualify for e-rate discount under the Telecommunications category."

• The agreement entered into between Aberdeen School District and CenturyTel is titled as an "Agreement for Telecommunication Services". This is most likely the reason for the change of "Category of Service" listing. However, the contract is for the same services provided the previous year which was awarded funding through the Erate Program. I would hope that merely changing the words in the "category of service" column would not deny us the funding we feel we deserve, especially since the services we are receiving would apparently be eligible under either category selected and were funded in Year 4 (2001-2002) under the "Internet Access" category. We are leasing transport from a telecommunications company (CenturyTel) to allow Internet access to students and staff at all eligible sites within the Aberdeen School District.

The letter also states in the second bulleted paragraph that we "... were contacted and requested to provide a 470# that posted for Telecommunications services."

- In fact, the email (Attachment #2) requested "... establishiong 470 application number in reference to your 471 application number 297249" (sic).
- In response to that email, I replied (Attachment #2) and provided the original Form 470 number from Year 4 (778470000311109) which was the number used for the application in question.

The funds affected by this decision are relied upon to enhance technology-related services provided through the limited technology budget within our district and would be sorely missed. We hope that you will take into account all the information provided here and reconsider the decision made earlier in this matter. I am available to answer any questions.

Sincerely

Michael R. Williams Technology Director

Aberdeen School District No. 5

216 North "G" Street Aberdeen, WA 98520

Ph.: 360-538-2036 FAX: 360-538-2014

Attachment #1

Body of our original SLD Letter of Appeal:

Aberdeen School District (Billed Entity No. 145297) was denied funding for Form 471 Application No. 297249. The stated reason for denial was that "The 470 cited did not include service of this type; therefore it does not meet the 28 day competitive bidding requirement." Since this request was covered under an existing contract, our 471 Application referred to Form 470 Application No. 778470000311109. The category of service was inadvertently changed from "Internet Access" on the Funding Year 4 Form 470 Application No. 778470000311109 to "Telecommunication Services" on Line 11 of Form 471 Application No. 297249. Because this service is eligible for funding, has remained constant and we were funded during Year 4, we feel denial of our 471 Application is not a proper decision. In keeping with the spirit of the Universal Access Program we are asking the SLD to reconsider their decision in this matter...

Sincerely, <signature>

Michael R. Williams
mwilliams@asd5.org
Technology Director
Aberdeen School District No. 5
216 North "G" Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520
Ph.: 360-538-2036

FAX: 360-538-2036

Attachment#2

Email correspondence March, 2002

From: Mike Williams

Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2002 5:07 AM To: pbacchi@sl.universalservice.org

Subject: RE: Application 297249 Applicants Form Identifier Yr5ASDNetwork

Peter:

The 470 application for the Form 471 in question is: 778470000311109

>Mike

Subject:

Application 297249 Applicants Form Identifier Yr5ASDNetwork

Date:

Fri, 22 Mar 2002 07:02:51 -0500

From:

"Peter Bacchioni" pbacchi@sl.universalservice.org>

To:

<mwilliams@asd5.org>

Hi mike

I need the establishiong 470 application number in reference to your 471 application number 297249. The 470 application number is a 15 digit number that you

posted the requested services for a 28 day period. Please e-mail me back with this number.

Thank You

Peter J. Bacchioni Program Integrated Assurance Schools and Libraries Division 100 S. Jefferson Avenue Whippany, NJ 07981 Phone# 973-428-7337 Fax# 973-599-6513 03/22/2002